

**(b) Report**

At the end of the 4-year period beginning on June 16, 1988, the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary, shall submit a report to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to the President pro tempore of the Senate detailing the results of the research conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

(Pub. L. 100-333, § 8, June 16, 1988, 102 Stat. 608.)

**§ 2408. Water quality criteria document**

Not later than March 30, 1989, the Administrator shall issue a final water quality criteria document concerning organotin compounds pursuant to section 1314(a) of this title.

(Pub. L. 100-333, § 9, June 16, 1988, 102 Stat. 608.)

**§ 2409. Penalties****(a) Civil penalties**

(1) Any person violating section 2403 or 2404 of this title shall be assessed a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000 for each offense.

(2) After notice and an opportunity for a hearing, a person found by the Administrator to have violated section 2403 or 2404 of this title is liable to the United States Government for the civil penalty assessed under subsection (a) of this section. The amount of the civil penalty shall be assessed by the Administrator by written notice. In determining the amount of the penalty, the Administrator shall consider the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the prohibited acts committed and, with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history of prior offenses, ability to pay, and other matters that justice requires.

(3) The Administrator may compromise, modify, or remit, with or without consideration, a civil penalty assessed under this section until the assessment is referred to the Attorney General.

(4) If a person fails to pay an assessment of a civil penalty after it has become final, the Administrator may refer the matter to the Attorney General for collection in the appropriate United States district court.

**(b) Criminal penalties**

Any person knowingly violating section 2403 or 2404 of this title shall be fined not more than \$25,000, or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.

(Pub. L. 100-333, § 10, June 16, 1988, 102 Stat. 608.)

**§ 2410. Other authorities; State laws****(a) Other authorities of Administrator**

Nothing in this chapter shall limit or prevent the Administrator from establishing a lower permissible release rate for organotin under authorities other than this chapter.

**(b) State laws**

Nothing in this chapter shall preclude or deny any State or political subdivision thereof the right to adopt or enforce any requirement regarding antifouling paint or any other substance containing organotin. Compliance with the requirements of any State or political subdivision

thereof respecting antifouling paint or any other substance containing organotin shall not relieve any person of the obligation to comply with the provisions of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 100-333, § 11, June 16, 1988, 102 Stat. 608.)

**CHAPTER 38—DUMPING OF MEDICAL WASTE BY PUBLIC VESSELS**

Sec.	
2501.	Findings.
2502.	Definitions.
2503.	Prohibition.
2504.	Guidance.

**§ 2501. Findings**

The Congress finds the following:

(1) The washing ashore of potentially infectious medical wastes from public vessels of the United States may pose serious and widespread risks to public health and to the welfare of coastal communities.

(2) Current Federal law provides inadequate protections against the disposal of such wastes from such vessels into ocean waters.

(3) Operators of such vessels must take immediate action to stop disposing of such wastes into ocean waters.

(Pub. L. 100-688, title III, § 3102, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4152.)

**SHORT TITLE**

Section 3101 of subtitle A [§§ 3101-3105] of title III of Pub. L. 100-688 provided that: "This subtitle [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the 'United States Public Vessel Medical Waste Anti-Dumping Act of 1988'."

**§ 2502. Definitions**

For the purposes of this chapter:

**(1) Potentially infectious medical waste**

The term "potentially infectious medical waste" includes isolation wastes; infectious agents; human blood and blood products; pathological wastes; sharps; body parts; contaminated bedding; surgical wastes; and other disposable medical equipment and material that may pose a risk to the public health, welfare or the marine environment.

**(2) Public vessel**

The term "public vessel" means a vessel of any type whatsoever (including hydrofoils, air-cushion vehicles, submersibles, floating craft whether propelled or not, and fixed or floating platforms) that is owned, or demise chartered, and operated by the United States Government, and is not engaged in commercial service.

(Pub. L. 100-688, title III, § 3103, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4152.)

**§ 2503. Prohibition**

After 6 months after November 18, 1988, no public vessel shall dispose of potentially infectious medical waste into ocean waters unless—

(1)(A) the health or safety of individuals on board the vessel is threatened; or

(B) during time of war or a declared national emergency;

(2) the waste is disposed of beyond 50 nautical miles from the nearest land; and

(3)(A) in the case of a public vessel which is not a submersible, the waste is sterilized, properly packaged, and sufficiently weighted to prevent the waste from coming ashore after disposal; and

(B) in the case of a public vessel which is a submersible, the waste is properly packaged and sufficiently weighted to prevent the waste from coming ashore after disposal.

(Pub. L. 100-688, title III, §3104, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4152.)

#### § 2504. Guidance

Not later than 3 months after November 18, 1988, the Secretary of Defense and the head of each affected agency, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall each issue guidance for public vessels under the jurisdiction of their agency regarding implementation of section 2503 of this title.

(Pub. L. 100-688, title III, §3105, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4153.)

### CHAPTER 39—SHORE PROTECTION FROM MUNICIPAL OR COMMERCIAL WASTE

#### SUBCHAPTER I—SHORE PROTECTION

Sec.	
2601.	Definitions.
2602.	Vessel permits and numbers.
2603.	Waste handling practices.
2604.	Suspension, revocation, and injunctions.
2605.	Enforcement.
2606.	Subpena authority.
2607.	Fees.
2608.	Civil penalty procedures.
2609.	Penalties.

#### SUBCHAPTER II—RELATED PROVISIONS

2621.	Study and recommendations.
2622.	Relation to other laws.
2623.	Authorization of appropriations.

#### SUBCHAPTER I—SHORE PROTECTION

#### § 2601. Definitions

In this chapter—

(1) “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) “coastal waters” means—

(A) the territorial sea of the United States;

(B) the Great Lakes and their connecting waters;

(C) the marine and estuarine waters of the United States up to the head of tidal influence; and

(D) the Exclusive Economic Zone as established by Presidential Proclamation Number 5030, dated March 10, 1983.

(3) “municipal or commercial waste” means solid waste (as defined in section 6903 of title 42) except—

(A) solid waste identified and listed under section 6921 of title 42;

(B) waste generated by the vessel during normal operations;

(C) debris solely from construction activities;

(D) sewage sludge subject to regulation under title I of the Marine Protection, Re-

search, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 [33 U.S.C. 1411 et seq.]; and

(E) dredged or fill material subject to regulation under title I of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 [33 U.S.C. 1411 et seq.], the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), or the Rivers and Harbors Appropriation Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 401 et seq.).

(4) “person” means an individual, trust, firm, joint stock company, corporation (including a government corporation), partnership, association, State, municipality, commission, political subdivision of a State, or any interstate body.

(5) “receiving facility” means a facility or operation where municipal or commercial waste is unloaded from a vessel.

(6) “United States”, when used in a geographic sense, means the States of the United States, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and any other territory or possession of the United States.

(7) “waste source” means a facility or vessel from which municipal or commercial waste is loaded onto a vessel, including any rolling stock or motor vehicles from which that waste is directly loaded.

(Pub. L. 100-688, title IV, §4101, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4154.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Presidential Proclamation Number 5030, referred to in par. (2)(D), is set out under section 1453 of Title 16, Conservation.

The Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, referred to in par. (3)(D) and (E), is Pub. L. 92-532, Oct. 23, 1972, 86 Stat. 1052, as amended. Title I of that Act is classified generally to subchapter I (§1411 et seq.) of chapter 27 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1401 of this title and Tables.

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act, referred to in par. (3)(E), is act June 30, 1948, ch. 758, as amended generally by Pub. L. 92-500, §2, Oct. 18, 1972, 86 Stat. 816, which is classified generally to chapter 26 (§1251 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1251 of this title and Tables.

The Rivers and Harbors Appropriation Act of 1899, referred to in par. (3)(E), is act Mar. 3, 1899, ch. 425, 30 Stat. 1151, as amended, which enacted sections 401, 403, 404, 406 to 409, 411 to 416, 418, 502, 549, 686, and 687 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

#### SHORT TITLE

Section 4001 of title IV of Pub. L. 100-688 provided that: “This title [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Shore Protection Act of 1988’.”

#### TERRITORIAL SEA OF UNITED STATES

For extension of territorial sea of United States, see Proc. No. 5928, set out as a note under section 1331 of Title 43, Public Lands.

#### § 2602. Vessel permits and numbers

##### (a) In general

A vessel (except a public vessel as defined in section 2101 of title 46) may not transport municipal or commercial waste in coastal waters without—